

THE WASHINGTON HERALD

Published Every Morning in the Year by THE WASHINGTON HERALD COMPANY.

Publication Office: 734 FIFTEENTH STREET NORTHWEST.

Entered as second-class matter, October 3, 1893, at the post-office at Washington, D. C., under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

SCOTT C. BONE, Editor.

Telephone Main 3392. (Private Branch Exchange.)

Subscription Rates by Carrier or Mail: Daily and Sunday.....\$3.00 per month. Daily, without Sunday.....\$2.00 per month. Daily, without Sunday.....\$1.00 per month.

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All communications intended for this newspaper, whether for the daily or the Sunday issue, should be addressed to THE WASHINGTON HERALD.

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1908.

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Contempt of the Law.

Sometimes when we get, as a people, in a patriotic mood we are fond of talking a little too loudly, perhaps, about the fine benefits of our equality under the law, and are rather likely to resent any suggestion from foreign observers that in this free republic there is any such relic of aristocratic days as class distinctions. And yet the odorous Thaw case, which has far too long been a public disgrace, furnishes a striking example of what can be done just through the sheer weight of money and "pull."

Here is a man who, after a gross and brutal murder, has escaped the gallows because the money of his family was sufficient to hire alienists to prove him insane. In a dim, uncertain sort of way there is a public feeling that even if two justices of the Supreme Court have declared Thaw of unsound mind, the law has been cheated and justice thwarted. But that is not the end, for a new proceeding to test his sanity has been begun, and pending the delay the prisoner is confined in the Dutchess County jail where, again, his money procures him such comfortable quarters that the poorer prisoners are cramped. The officers of the law are burdened with providing him with expensive meals from a near-by hotel; feminine idiots send him flowers, and his too zealous friends get up suits against him almost daily so that to answer them he may be taken in automobiles to attend the hearings.

All this is made plain by the protest lodged with the authorities by Mr. George McLaughlin, secretary to the State commission of prisons. It is a protest that should be instantly heeded. Such a brazen example of what money can be made to do to defeat the ends of justice cannot fail to spread an evil influence wide. It is a notorious and undeniable case of the purchase of exemption from just punishment. It makes a mockery of the courts, turns justice into a travesty, and casts a bitter reflection on the authorities who have allowed this scandal to grow to such proportions.

Next thing we know, "Uncle Joe" Cannon will be claiming to be "the original Thaw man."

Protecting Trade.

It has been plain for some time that Great Britain has felt the need of some form of protection for her trade, and while it is unlikely that she will soon depart so far from the principles of Cobden as to establish anything like our form of protective tariff, it cannot be denied that she has already taken a step in that direction.

Last week there went into effect the new patent law of Great Britain, one which hits the American inventor and manufacturer of patented articles very hard. The new law provides that after one year patents granted to foreigners in Great Britain may be revoked unless the patented article is manufactured within Great Britain.

The law is evidently designed to build up the manufacturing industries of Great Britain by a law which places foreign manufacturers at a disadvantage, and the British press hails it with satisfaction, estimating that it will cause the investment of \$125,000,000 by foreign manufacturers. It is said that about 8,000 patents granted to foreigners will come under the operation of the law.

Among some American merchants there has been talk of retaliation, and a similar law to that of Great Britain has been proposed for this country. The subject was taken up recently by the International Congress for the Protection of Industrial Property, meeting at Stockholm, where the American delegate, Mr. Edward B. Moore, Commissioner of Patents, declared that a majority of the countries belonging to the International Patent Union would probably lodge a protest against the operation of the law.

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against it. He stated, too, that the patent congress, to be held in Washington next year, would probably recommend to Congress legislation that would hit back at Great Britain.

We are inclined to believe that Great Britain is premature in its estimates of the great good that the new law is to do to British manufacturing. It is obvious that the sale of many of our patented articles in Great Britain can never be large enough to justify the establishment of a special manufactory over there, and until some British manufacturer gets the special machinery and the trained men Britishers will have to go without the benefit of our inventors' brains.

Mr. Bryan is reported to have given a Pullman porter a \$10 tip recently. This was a hard example to set for Mr. Taft, who has established something of a reputation as a traveler.

Tariff Revision Certain.

Whatever may be the outcome of the campaign, it is obvious that the Sixty-first Congress will be convened in extra session next March, as both candidates have promised an immediate attempt to realize in legislation the reforms for which they stand. It is pretty certain that tariff revision will be by all odds the most important of these. Everybody, it appears, is in favor of revision of some sort. Mr. Payne, one of the chief of the standpatters, has lately come out strong for revision, and of course "Uncle Joe" is an equally ardent tariff reformer. The only questions undetermined are, what principles shall guide the revisionists, and to what extent and in what direction shall revision be undertaken.

The issue of the campaign will, to some degree, settle these questions. If the Republicans attempt revision there is some indication that the new tariff will be framed largely with reference to foreign tariffs and their effect upon our export trade. The maximum and minimum principle will undoubtedly be adopted, so as to give our government a wider basis than it now has for tariff agreements of a reciprocal character. It is possible that such agreements may satisfy, in a considerable measure, the demand for revision proceeding from those manufacturing interests not immediately benefited by the protective tariff, which are seeking the extension of their foreign trade. But how are the Republican revisionists going to satisfy the opposing interests, which, Senator McCumber predicts, and with good reason, will descend upon Congress with contradictory demands? The old contest for free raw materials will have to be fought all over again, and the old controversy between manufacturer and producer will be waged with the usual bitterness. To aid them in the solution of the perplexing questions raised by these contending interests, the Republicans have no guiding principle but that of protection to home industry. There must be no abatement of the protective idea, Republican statesmen shout in chorus. On this theory all domestic industry is entitled to protection, and so any Republican tariff bill must be a hodge-podge of compromise between conflicting interests, all of which insist that they shall be preserved from foreign competition.

The Democrats, on the other hand, should they be commissioned to revise the tariff, have at least one or two definite principles of revision that may determine the character of a Democratic tariff bill, at least in its earlier stages. One of these is that raw materials should be on the free list, and another is that the products of a trust should be unprotected. And more important than either is the idea that all tariff duties should be gradually reduced, so that eventually they would be on a revenue basis. Yet the Democratic revisionists would not be able to avoid conflicts of interest any more than the Republicans, and he would be a strong man who could drive a consistent tariff bill, carrying reduction of duties all along the line, through a Congress bound to be composed largely of protectionists, even if it were Democratic in complexion. No wonder the leaders of both parties hesitate to reopen the troublesome practical question of tariff revision. They would not have done so had not public opinion forced them into it.

"I am a great believer in humor," says Mr. Taft. We have no doubt in the world he is, at least, when he and the senior Senator from Ohio meet recently.

We learn with varying emotions that the cowboys of the Panhandle in Texas are forsaking the time-honored broncho and adopting the automobile for rounding up cattle. Already, we are told, there are many ranches equipped with these chug-chug cars. Indeed, it appears that they have become so common that citizens of the immediate vicinity have ceased to comment concerning them or give them more than an idle glance of all but satisfied curiosity when they pass.

Of course, this innovation robs the picturesque of a great deal of its picturesqueness. It is impossible to imagine a puncher of the erstwhile rugged appearance operating an automobile. He would look sadly out of place handling the steering apparatus and manipulating the levers and things that control the movements of these machines. That, however, would not matter so much if any benefit came to the ranch owners or the cowboys because of the new order of things, and it is the well-developed doubt that it will that gives us pause in thinking it all over.

The handling of great droves of cattle trends, apparently, to the engendering of extreme recklessness in the men immediately charged with responsibility for the cattle. No other horseback riders ride with the utter abandon affected by cowboys. We don't know whether it is the open air of the prairies, the almost wild state of the animals, or what not that fills the cowboy with his dare-devilry in deeds a horseback, but that he is thus filled we assert as true in the light of all history. And the amazing stunts of terrifying aspect that he has pulled off in the equestrian world are as nothing compared to the awe-inspiring activities possible in a reckless automobilist!

The cowboys, it appears, who have essayed the management of automobiles up to this time have not yet manifested any insane symptoms, and we hope they will not later on. But there is danger ahead, and those people now inclined to view the situation with complacent indifference may be destined to a rude awakening soon. Everybody who owns or operates an automobile is as safe and conservative in the early stages as it is possible to be, we fancy. They have not only some measure of respect for their own necks, but they view the rights of pedestrians from the correct and proper angle. With accumulating wisdom ancient their car's possibilities, however, often come freakish and outlandish notions concerning speed and kindred matters, and from these things not infrequently develop results truly frightful to contemplate.

Our fear is that the automobilizing cowboys may attempt to go the same relative lengths with the bubble wagons that they have always gone in the past with the horses. If they do, there is going to be trouble in the Panhandle, and don't you forget it! A scorching cowboy would be something awful to see, we feel sure. Indeed, we shudder to think of the havoc he might create! And it is this disquieting thought that makes us fear for future tranquility—even Panhandle tranquility—in Granddaddy Texas!

This highway robbery story from the Yellowstone appears to be of decidedly saffron hue.

"Delaware has a barber who can shave two men at a time," says the Cleveland Plain Dealer. Boston has a man—T. Lawson—who can skin them in bunches, and never bat an eye.

"New York ain't going to the devil yet, even if they are dancing nearly naked," says Maggie Cline. Still, Maggie must admit that "dancing nearly naked" is going some.

Now comes along a fellow and advises us to eat seven meals a day. This man is either a hireling of the beef trust or a hopeless lunatic.

Cautious people starting for a roller-chair ride on the Boardwalk at Atlantic City nowadays will probably hire a brass band and a steam calliope to accompany them.

If Castro had been born King of Serbia somebody probably would have punched his face long ago.

"A magazine publishes an article headed, 'Ballooning Among the Clouds.' Where else could you balloon?" asks the Richmond News Leader. Sure, reminds us of the fellow who asked his wife to buy "a ham of meat."

Former Senator Carmack has assumed editorial charge of the Nashville Tennessean, and the paper already shows his fine form. His first straightaway editorial is headed "Honest, Honest, Iago." You can bet that Mr. Carmack, all right!

Mr. Taft will capture the fishermen's votes, if Mr. Bryan isn't very careful. The big Olsson announces, with absolute solemn face, that the biggest bass he has hooked thus far on his present outing got away.

"Clean up—cheer up," says the Augusta Chronicle, as the waters recede and things begin to assume a normal attitude. That's the reason you can't down the American people, no matter what section of the country they hail from.

"There is something more important than a dollar in this world," says a philosopher. Certainly there is; there's a \$2 bill, for instance.

Those Moroccan cut-ups may succeed in getting something started in the Old World that will make a noise like a war, after all.

Well, well! So the love of Damon and Pythias was a sex affair compared with the love of Taft and Foraker!

We sincerely hope "Affinity" Earle will select a large, healthy, robust, red-headed wash-lady for his next experiment.

The President says Japan has done well to postpone that great international exposition until she may have time to get it good and ready for the opening day. And yet there are people in this land who insist that he isn't Japan's great and good friend.

"The Atlanta Georgian furnishes food for the paragraphs by calling attention to the fact that the town of Ochopee is in Toombs County. That would be funny, except that there is no such county," says the Cleveland Leader. The Leader's comment makes it funny, all right; there is such a county in Georgia.

Mr. Roosevelt will overlook a fine bet if he fails to take "Pete" along when he goes to Africa on his next expedition. "Pete" might come in right handy in case the President should find himself in a tight place, you know!

Market report from Morocco, Turkey, and Persia—Thrones weak and uneasy.

"Knee-deep the cow stands in the pond and chews her grassy cud," warbles a Tennessee poet. We have seen human beings chewing quids who appeared to be about knee-deep in a sort of pond, too.

Wonder if some fool doctor won't come along by and by and try to convince us that pumpkin pie is a mass of deadly germs?

A swarm of ladybugs is reported to have broken up a Texas picnic recently. The rude things; they must have been regular suffragettes!

Fourteen thousand new lawyers hang out their shingles in this country every year. What's the use, good people, what's the use!

The Cunard people announce that they propose to abolish absolutely the tipping evil on their boats. This will render it possible for a number of people to undertake a European tour who wouldn't dream of it as things have been.

If Baron Mumm joins the diplomatic corps at Washington he isn't likely to be popular with Mr. Wu, we fancy.

President Diaz is to run again for the Presidency of Mexico. He probably noticed himself this.

Since the raging Savannah washed away that bridge between Augusta and its dispensary-blessed neighbor across the river, we presume the first thing in order down that way is the institution of a rapid-fire ferry line.

Put Up Your Gass.

Closed season for poking fun at the Washington baseball team.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

END OF THE EPISODE.

Vacation's done. Through a red haze The setting sun Propels its rays.

He holds his hand in sorrow, For both are going home to-morrow.

Each vows to write, But well doth know The chance is slight Of doing so.

So they wax glum and dumb and glum-mer; It's a long wait until next summer.

Same Effect.

"Let's go to the picnic." "Aw, what's the use? Let's set the grub out in the yard until the ants have covered it, and then eat it here at home."

Driven to It.

"Let principle take the place of inspiration," thundered one worker for the uplift.

"Wouldn't do for me at all," declared the press humorist. "When I haven't an idea for a joke I have to steal."

Pretty Good Proof.

"That young bender is in love with the landlady's daughter." "What make you think that?" "I know it. He saves every hair he finds in the butter."

That's All. The alrshp's future might be good. We wish to state, If but some aviators would Just advise.

A Canned Campaign. "We're going to send a graphophone to your town to make campaign speeches."

"Better send another one to furnish the laughter an' applause. The boys are purty busy getting in the crops."

She Wouldn't Suit.

"I told you to ask me again in three months," pouted the coquette. "What of it?" "The three months are up."

"True; but my taste has improved."

New Styles.

"Don't throw that old shaving brush away."

"Why not?" "I understand they'll be used for trimming ladies' hats this fall."

ANOTHER TERM FOR DIAZ.

Movement for Re-election of Aged Mexican President.

From the Boston Transcript. The announcement that a movement has been started in the state of San Luis Potosi, which is likely to spread to other states, to elect moral pressure upon President Diaz to accept another term as head of the republic is an indication that Mexican politics are likely to be more interesting and perhaps more sensational during the next two years than they have been during the last twenty. The election takes place in 1910. At that time, if he lives, Diaz will be eighty years of age, and though a man of extraordinary physical and mental vigor, for his weight of years, he has shown a sensible realization of his natural limitations by the announcement that he should not run again.

For twenty-eight years out of the last thirty-two he has been President of Mexico. The interregnum was from 1880 to 1881, when his intimate personal friend, Gen. Gonzalez, occupied the office, the constitution not permitting his own reelection, but the need of his wise direction was so apparent that the constitution was amended, and he has continued to direct his country's destinies uninterrupted since.

It has been a era of peace, order, and prosperity such as Mexico had never previously known. Under his rule about 20,000 miles of railroad have been built; government revenue has grown from \$15,000,000 to \$115,000,000, and investments of foreign capital to the amount of more than \$1,200,000,000 have been made. He has commanded a degree of confidence, loyalty, and respect that no other man has had since the country's destinies were entrusted to him.

Not long ago Secretary Root said of him that he seemed to him of all living men the best suited to the office of president of one of our popular magazines has ventured to call him "the greatest man of the continent." While superlatives are hazardous, it is perhaps safe to say that on the last quarter of a century no other one man has done so much for his country as Diaz has done for Mexico. He has developed a high order of statesmanship and of a kind particularly adapted to a solution of the problems with which he had to deal.

As thoughtful men of the republic look backward and forward, it is not surprising that they should contemplate with apprehension the withdrawal of his firm and steady hand from the helm of state. But he as well as they is a patriot as well as a statesman, and he is not likely to leave a position that he is content to take. He is anxious that Mexico should go forward on the new lines of civic order and economic progress that he has laid down. He desires to see the succession peacefully established ere he goes hence, and without doubt the great influence that he has acquired would go toward securing a consummation so desired.

He has apparently been seeking to direct events to that end. Ramon Corral, for whom the position of Vice President was created, is the man, it is believed, that he wishes to step into his place. He has had large experience in public and executive affairs. He understands the President's policies and sympathies with them. Could Diaz see his work crowned with a prospect of permanent permanence he would doubtless be ready to say, "Now let thy servant depart in peace," and as he is likely to be able to contribute more to that result by retiring than by continuing in office until the last call, he will probably not give a favorable response to the importunities that have been sent to him.

Our Naval Slowness. From the New York Sun. The imminent need of a line officer to advise the Secretary of the Navy and to pronounce upon all technical questions that may arise has been abundantly illustrated. In 1893 Lieut. Poundstone, a line officer of our navy, submitted plans for a battle ship of the Dreadnought type—the battle ship of all big guns. Previously, though practically contemporaneously, Col. Culbert, the great Italian designer, had given to the world the idea of a similar vessel. The British government adopted his idea, and the great Dreadnought is the result. Lieut. Poundstone's plans were pigeonholed in the Construction Bureau, and such ships as the Idaho and the Mississippi, already obsolete, were built instead. Does anybody believe that the Secretary of the Navy, with a thoroughly equipped line officer at his elbow, would have permitted this blunder?

Appetite Equal to the Job. From the Knoxville Sentinel. Evidently Mr. Bryan is not looking for the baled hay with cream and sawdust pudding there. When he is hungry, he eats St. Louis reporters watched him eat "four large roast beefs, one large steak, a huge plate of potatoes, and other fixings" at the Southern Hotel a day or two ago. Mr. Bryan does a great deal of work and is not ashamed to fortify himself for it.

POLITICAL COMMENT.

The New York Times calls for a larger display of verbal pyrotechnics in the Republican campaign as an offset to Mr. Bryan's activity. The Times says:

"To offset the influence of Mr. Bryan's vigorous, enthusiastic campaign making we look to see the Republican managers put forth their best efforts. Some of his arguments are plausible, all are made effectively. They need to be met. Not all, or nearly all, the people who hear Bryan and applaud him are going to vote for him, of course. But he is out for the votes. We do not believe he will get more than his normal share, which is the smaller share, but the Republicans cannot afford to let themselves be out of the spectacular campaign work. Political traditions here favor a lively campaign, with lots of oratory and music. Mr. Taft did not fail to pause on his way to the fishing grounds to make a few lucid, forcible speeches. His arguments always carry greater weight than Bryan's."

Of like tenor are these observations from the Baltimore American: "It is questionable whether the people will stand for that front-porch programme. The desire to see the man who will be as pretty much everybody believes, the next President is universal. States' rights, and the rights of the country besides Northern Ohio."

An example of the independence of Western Republicans appears in the advice of the Kansas City Star to repudiate all candidates for Congress who display reactionary tendencies, no matter what their political persuasion:

"It is far more important to elect the best candidates than it is to elect Democratic or Republican candidates. And for this reason the records of some of the men who are up for re-nomination and re-election will be looked upon with unusual scrutiny. For in spite of the many good things the present Congress has done, under the compelling force of public sentiment and President Roosevelt's consistent leadership, there are many men in the House who are no better than the obstructionists in the Senate—men who serve the interests rather than the people. These, and new candidates of similar sympathy, alliances, and obligations should be repudiated whenever they are opposed by more desirable candidates, no matter to which party they belong."

Taking issue with The Washington Herald's remarks on the bank deposit guarantee issue, the Baltimore Star asks:

"When Bank A closes its doors because the owners cannot pay their debts or depositors, why should the depositors and stockholders of its competitors go down in their pockets to meet Bank A's bills? No more than the money of the grocers of Baltimore should be compelled by law to foot the debt of one of their trade who goes to the wall."

The New York Herald, apropos of Mr. Bryan's assertion that a real tariff reform can be had from the Republicans now in control of the Senate and House, propounds this interesting question:

"What chance would Mr. Bryan have, if elected, of securing such tariff reform as he proposes with these very men in control in the Senate and House?"

This is the Independence League view of the old parties, according to the New York American:

"At the same time the Republican party unquestionably has become divided by its progressive and its reactionary elements. And there is the peculiar and dangerous condition of a radical Democratic candidate trying to play to the reactionary galleries and of a conservative Republican candidate seeking the applause of the radicals."

The New York Sun sees trouble for the Democrats in the South on account of the scramble for the labor and negro votes. It ironically says:

"What will our Southern friends think of the spectacle of Mr. Bryan's campaign manager deep in conference with Gompers and a negro bishop? The dynamite, the murderous shotgun, and the deadly ambush connected with the mining-strike are not likely to incline Alabama or any other Southern State to dalliance with union labor, of which Gompers is the head and front, while as concerns the negro, the South will have none of it on any terms."

Already a number of Southern newspapers, beginning with the Baltimore Sun, have been assailing Mr. Bryan with interrogatories on his subject and it is now openly declared that the Sun's defection was largely prompted by Mr. Bryan's refusal to explain.

An adverse opinion of Mr. Bryan's trust remedies is expressed by the New York Journal of Commerce, which regards them as visionary and unworkable:

"This idea of licensing corporations engaged in interstate commerce originated with the head of the bureau of corporations, under the present administration, and has been fostered by the head of the administration, but it has been condemned by Democrats as centralizing power in the Federal government. It is certainly open to objection, but if it is to be done it should apply to all alike, regardless of amount of capital or extent of business. Such a system might be made consistent with the power to regulate commerce and would possibly be workable under a general law, but compulsory licensing of something defined as a 'trust,' because it controlled a certain portion of some article 'used in this country,' would be just as open to constitutional objection on the score of centralization of power, and would have the further objection of setting up discrimination in the regulation and supervision of corporations engaged in the same business, and of being utterly unworkable in practice. Can any one imagine Mr. Bryan's anti-trust scheme in actual operation and so enforced as to do away with the abuses complained of?"

A more important issue than any in the campaign, thinks the Philadelphia Ledger, is obedience to law:

"There is no issue in the political campaign to compare in gravity with the issue of law enforcement in the United States. The rigid and uncompromising march of justice. The right spirit cannot be thrust upon the people suddenly by force of arms. They must be born and bred to a respect for the law; they must be trained to look upon the regard for their country and its institutions; they must be taught by every known agency in the republic to adopt as a part of their action, every-day working patriotism, the high resolve to stand for the law individually and collectively; to oppose all who oppose it; to sustain it even when they do not like it, and to make 'this country a country of the law,' because they are convinced that the republic's bulwark is the law; that society's happiness depends upon it; that 'freedom is its child, peace is its companion, and safety walks in its steps.' The best patriot is the man who stands for the law."

An Unfettered Man.

From the Richmond Republican. The government is under obligations to nobody for its popularity with the people. It is not the private property of anybody, and is not obliged to set up a bargain counter in the capitol. He is hailed as a chief political attraction in all the States, and all the people want more of him. There are more calls for our great reformer to speak than there is to host everybody else. The people of other States say they believe in him. His reputation and his fame travel on his merits.

NAVAL CRAZE SPREADING.

Our Example Contagious Among South American Republics.

From the Springfield Republican.

The action of the Argentine Chamber of Deputies in voting \$5,000,000 for new naval armament was deemed so important by the American Minister that he immediately cabled the news to Washington, and he was fully justified. It is a most singular development that Secretary Root's long journey to the various South American capitals, which was believed to encourage arbitration and promote peace among the countries of this hemisphere, should be followed so soon by a plunge of the leading South American governments into militarism.

Argentina's Chamber of Deputies appears to have followed the government's lead in voting so large a sum for warship construction, and the action must be viewed as conclusive in showing that Brazil's new fleet of Dreadnoughts, now building in England, is believed by Brazil's own neighbors to be intended for service in South America. The alarmist story that the Brazilian battle ships were being constructed for the purpose of selling them to Japan or to Germany, power bent on mischief, is evidently shattered.

Argentina's government's course cannot be explained consistently with such a fantastic assumption. Those in authority at Buenos Ayres are clearly of the opinion, it seems, that the new Brazilian fleet means a naval competition that they country must face. If the Argentine senate condones the action of the chamber, the present world-wide race for war ships will have reached South America in the most serious manner.

Among all countries, they are the least able to provide themselves with such costly instruments of war, and the wonder grows why Brazil at this time should have led the way.

The most obvious explanation is the moral example which the great powers, including the United States, have been setting in recent years. It may be, also, that South American rulers have been taken in by the clapnet of a big navy being a guaranty of peace. All the arguments that apply to ourselves apply to them, and the Mahan and Rooseveltian teaching sounds as plausible in Rio Janeiro as in New York or Washington.

MR. CLEVELAND IN HISTORY.

His Lofty Conception of the Character of Public Duty.

ADRI E. STEVENSON, in the Circle.

I saw Mr. Cleveland last year upon the occasion of his visit to Arbor Lodge, Nebr., to deliver an address at the unveiling of the statue of the late Sterling Morton, former Secretary of Agriculture. The address was worthy the occasion, and, indeed, a just and touching tribute to the memory of an excellent man and able and efficient Cabinet minister. In my last conversation with Mr. Cleveland, upon the occasion mentioned, he spoke freely of the occasion, and of the many whom he had passed away.

During our stay at Arbor Lodge, the beautiful Morton home, by invitation of the superintendent, Mr. Cleveland visited the State Asylum for the Blind, at Nebraska City. In his brief address to the unfortunate inmates of the institution Mr. Cleveland mentioned the fact that in his early life he had, above all, been a teacher in an asylum for the blind, and spoke of his profound interest in what ever concerned their welfare. I have heard him many times, but never when he appeared so better advantage or evinced such depth of feeling as upon this occasion.

The passing of the last ex-President marks an epoch. He was indeed a striking figure in American history, a man whom all in all, we may not see his like again. The "good citizenship"—an expression frequently heard upon his lips—to which he would have his countrymen aspire, was of the noblest, and no man had a clearer or loftier conception of the responsible and sacred character of public station. With him the oft-quoted words, "a public office is a public trust," was no mere lip service. His administration of the government will safely endure the sure test of time.

Whatever word leaps to light, He never can be accused and found guilty. In victory or defeat, in office or out, he was true to his own self and to his ideals. His early struggles, his firmness of purpose, his determination that knew no shades of wavering, his exalted aims and the success that subjected his own efforts have given him a high place among statesmen, and will be a continuing inspiration to the oncoming generation of his countrymen.

Decline of Whiskers.

Comparatively few of our public men now wear beards. Of the seven candidates for President this year, six have smooth-shaven countenances and Mr. Taft wears only a moustache. Out of 100 members of Congress, only 10 have beards, and the number is steadily decreasing. The fashion of beardlessness is now also finding a steady increase of favor among the American rank and file.

One Promise Will Be Kept.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.

Although Mr. Hopkins, of Illinois, says that Mr. Taft's promises are not binding on any party, his promise to revise the tariff upward will be kept by the party if that party is ever allowed to undertake the work.

An Error of Youth.

From the Philadelphia Press.

The dreadful charge is now made that Mr. Taft used to write poetry, but no doubt he will be willing to promise not to do it again, as the Constitution does not require the President to do anything of that kind.

A Perplexing Problem.

From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.

Castro, in his bold defiance of the whole outside world, has become one of the most interesting figures in modern history, and presents one of the most perplexing problems in international affairs.